

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

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**Weather:** Warm and dry conditions prevailed across most of Oregon last week. High temperatures ranged from the low eighties in south central areas of the State to the high nineties in the Willamette Valley, SW Valleys, and north central. Low temperatures were generally in the thirties and forties, except for Redmond, which reported a low temperature of 28 degrees. Out of the 43 weather stations, only 23 stations reported rainfall. Florence, Roseburg, and Christmas Valley were the only areas to report over an inch of precipitation, and Agency Lake was the only station that reported receiving rainfall more than two days.

**Field Crops:** A break from recent rainy weather allowed farmers and ranchers to get back in the fields to continue spraying and planting. After several weeks of wet weather, planting of many late season crops was behind the average pace. Corn and bean planting continued in Malheur County. The drier weather also allowed many producers to start cutting their hay crops. Rain over the weekend, especially in western Oregon, may have damaged some alfalfa that was cut but not put up.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Warm and dry conditions was the norm across the State. Livestock in good condition across most of the State. Some movement of livestock to higher ranges. In some areas cattle getting their shots and tags. Sheep in good condition. Range and pasture for the State in good condition.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Two days of temperatures over 90 degrees in the Northern Willamette Valley required growers to irrigate all plant material and pay careful attention to plant conditions. Even with close attention to watering some greenhouse crops were burned. Retail outlets still have plenty of plants for sale. Out of state shipping doing normal seasonal slowing.

**Vegetables:** Early vegetables such as radishes, shallots, new potatoes, garlic, lettuce mixes, onions, chives, chard, and carrots were ready. Sweet corn planting was underway in most areas. Tomatoes and peppers were

being planted in Jackson County. Asparagus harvest was going strong and may start to wind down in Umatilla County. Processing peas were up and the crop looks good so far. Potato planting is several weeks behind in Klamath County, only 25 percent of the crop has been planted.

**Fruits and Nuts:** The cherry fruit fly's first emergence in the northern Willamette Valley was recorded on Monday, May 23rd. The warmer weather helped advance the development of the sweet cherry crop with a projected harvest near the second week in June. Polk County sweet cherry growers appreciated the rain. Strawberries were available at Clackamas County farm stands and farmers markets. The Marionberry crop looked to have good potential. Washington County strawberries were ripe. Raspberries were sizing and blackberries were swelling. Filberts were growing in size and walnuts were leafing out. Apples look spotty as pollination was poor. Southern Willamette Valley prunes and plums have a poor fruit set. Peaches looked okay so far. Cherries and pears have poor, to very poor, set. Early apples have moderate set. There was a codling moth emergence the last seven days, but emergence has slowed this past week. Many tree fruits still have large disease issues. Hazelnuts look okay so far. Blackberries and raspberries have nice fruit set so far, although raspberries have a severe infestation of yellow rust. Pseudomonas showed up in most varieties of blueberries; berry set looks moderate. Strawberries were starting bloom and fruit is forming. Early berries are getting botrytis already. Umatilla County cherry harvest may begin next week. Sweet cherries around The Dalles were beginning to show some color. The rains ended last week while the cherries were still green so there was no cracking. The crop size is moderate; smaller than last year, but the cherries should be of high quality if the rains hold off. There have been few wind storms this year so the cherries were very clean with few marks. Some cherry growers in the Mill Creek area reported that they have lower yield potentials due to spring frosts at, or before, blossoming. Spraying continued all week for controlling cherry fruit fly. Southern Oregon apples, peaches, and pears were showing good growth. Some cover sprays were applied as weather permitted. Vineyards were growing well with some blossoms about to set fruit.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 05/29/05**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	9	10	76	5
Subsoil	15	27	56	2

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 05/29/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	1	9	33	46	11
Spring wheat	9	15	36	36	4
Barley	3	5	22	41	29
Range and pasture	2	5	21	54	18

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 05/29/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat headed	76	42	68	47
Barley planted	98	97	95	97
Barley emerged	92	86	87	90
Spring wheat planted	100	100	100	99
Spring wheat emerged	93	91	95	89
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.6	3.5	-	-

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Warm sunny weather good for field work. Soil is still very wet. There were huge pollen loads last week, and heavy rains were knocking plants over. Some plants are recovering. Very poor set in prunes and plums. Peaches are looking okay so far. Cherries and pears have poor, to very poor, set. Early apples have moderate set. Huge codling moth emergence the last seven days, but emergence has slowed this past week. Many tree fruits still have large disease issues. Hazelnuts look okay so far. Blackberries and raspberries have nice fruit set so far. Raspberries have a severe infestation of yellow rust, nice berry set. Pseudomonas showing up in most varieties of blueberries. Berry set looks moderate. Strawberries are starting bloom and fruit is forming. Early berries are getting botrytis already. Radishes, shallots, new potatoes, garlic, lettuce mixes, onions, chives, chard, chives, carrots are ready. Tomatoes are being sold in the markets. Early garlic coming out already. Botrytis may be big in garlic this year. Hot temperatures burned some greenhouse crops. Greenhouses are full of new plants. Sales still down in all areas. Hopefully, sunny weekends will increase sales.

**CLACKAMAS:** Limited haymaking got underway. Grain and hay crops thrived in the warm sunny weather. Strawberries are readily available at the farm stands and farmers markets. Marionberry crop looks to have a good potential. Vegetable growers are scampering to get caught up on planting schedules. Some salad greens are available. The heavy shipping season for nursery materials is winding down. Livestock are in very good condition. Pastures remain quite lush due to the surplus May rainfall.

**COLUMBIA:** The warm weather came at a very good time for crops. Spring wheat planting is underway and minor crop activities are beginning. Pastures are in good condition.

**COOS/CURRY:** Overcast conditions continued throughout the period. Bandon experienced another 0.73 inches of rainfall on the week, bringing the month total over 8.1 inches. Normal for the entire month of May is 3.12 inches. Low lying pastures continue to experience flooding from surface water unable to run-off, and hay/silage production is being delayed on the bottoms. Evapotranspiration exceeded one inch for first time this spring. Winds were breezy and calm at times. Some local maximum temperatures exceeded 90 deg F. Some thunder and lightning were reported on May 27 & 28. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Bandon: 1 day, at Brookings-Harbor: Brookings (Curry): Low temp for the period was 45.56 degrees, 0.85 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 81.60 degrees, 4.84 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.01 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 0.84 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 68.26 inches, 4.15 inches above the 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) and near the historical average (through May) of 68.15 inches precipitation. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temp for the period was 42.97 degrees, 0.93 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 75.60 degrees, 12.04 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.73 inches over 2 days compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 0.40 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 49.59 inches, 2.93 inches above the 5-year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004, and still 6.38 inches below the historic average of 55.97 inches (through May).

**DOUGLAS:** Significant storm Friday (5/27) night and Saturday morning ruined some cut hay that was not yet put away. Soil saturation should also slow future harvest these next few weeks, decreasing energy and protein due to slowed maturation.

**JACKSON:** A few days of sunny weather. Many outdoor activities were ongoing on those days including some haying, field planting, and cattle being worked (shots, tagging and hauling to range pastures). Hay and grain crops that are planted look quite good. Spring rains have helped with good growth. Some hay was cut this week, but rain on Friday did not help since some hay got quite wet. Apples, peaches and pears are showing good growth. Some spraying (cover sprays) being done as weather permits. Vineyards are growing good with some blossoms about to set fruit. While the ground had a couple of days to dry, some planting was done. Some sweet corn is up while tomatoes and peppers are being planted. Vegetable growth looks good if the weather lets planting get done. Greenhouses are still putting out flower and vegetable starts. Outlets seem to have a good supply of most items. Nurseries are getting new starts transplanted in fields for growth. Many feeding and weeding activities are in progress. All livestock looking good to excellent. Some cattle being moved to higher ranges, even so, there are still a many cattle on the valley pastures. Pasture grass has had excellent growth.

**JOSEPHINE:** Gorgeous weather for working and planting. Very mild temperatures with cloudy skies. There were two days with measurable precipitation, exciting thunderstorms for two days, but no fires with heavy rain during and after the strikes. The growth is phenomenal this spring. Truck farmers are busy getting ready for the new growing season. Planting of corn and other cold sensitive plants has been ongoing all week. Haying has not started yet because fields are too wet. One guy was successful in mowing one of his hay fields and then it rained heavily. The fields are way overripe with grass pollen flying all over. The weather is not good for drying with the heavy cloud cover and humidity. Many weather related diseases are showing in the fruit trees with poor air circulation.

**MARION:** Most crops responded well in the warm and dry week. Container nurseries applied water.

**POLK:** Good to have more rain, but it has continued to slow planting. Cherry growers appreciated the rain.

**WASHINGTON:** High temperature for the week was 92 degrees for 2 days, low was 41 degrees with NO RAIN! Hay made from red clover, alfalfa and grass is ready. Silage cutting with red clover was underway. Strawberries are ripe, raspberries sizing, and blackberries are swelling. Filberts are growing in size, and walnuts are leafing out. Apples are spotty as pollination was poor. Sweet corn planting underway in most areas. Fresh vegetables are at farmers markets. Covers have been removed from hot houses, and irrigation is starting. Pastures are drying and growing. Cattle look good.

**YAMHILL:** The cherry fruit fly's first emergence was recorded on Monday, May 23rd. The warmer weather this week helped advance the development of the sweet cherry crop, with a projected harvest near the second week of June.

## EASTERN OREGON

**CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON:** Good weather last week with the exception of a widespread thunder and lightning storm on Saturday night and Sunday morning across portions of Deschutes and Crook counties. There was some heavy rain and high winds with the storm. Weather report says cool upcoming week with chance of thunder showers every day this coming week. Grass and alfalfa hay are being harvested in all three counties. Winter wheat is heading out or has headed out in Jefferson county and northern Deschutes county. Winter wheat should be heading out this coming week in Crook County. In general the wheat crops look good.

**HARNEY:** Past few days of warm sunshine has really made the grass grow. Most pairs out and moving to the forest next week.

**KLAMATH:** Warm, dry weather continues. Farmers are planting potato crops, and first cutting hay is being cut. Field operations are underway with improving weather. Potatoes are several weeks behind in planting; only 25% of potatoes have been planted. Range is in good to excellent condition. Spring rains were well timed.

**MALHEUR:** Good rain last Saturday pulled ground moisture together. Irrigation has begun on row crops. All crops look good. Corn and beans are still being planted. Most are busy spraying, cultivating, and trying to catch up after the rains. First cutting of alfalfa is on the ground, but some of it got a little wet. Livestock and range conditions are good to excellent.

**MORROW:** No new rain this past week. Rain in recent weeks have helped rangeland, winter wheat, and spring wheat. However, soil moisture deficiency still persists.

**SHERMAN:** Rains the last couple of weeks saved and made the crop, but

now we are getting hot weather, which has an inverse affect. The big talk is whether the crop, as it now stands, will benefit more from the rains than it will be hurt by the heat. Fields with excellent stands, it's just a big race to the finish. Jointed goatgrass and rye were flowering over two weeks ago, well ahead of normal. We expect an early harvest this summer. Fall barley starting to turn.

**UMATILLA:** Warmer weather helped bring crops along. Peas were up and looking good. Asparagus harvest has been going strong and may start winding down. Cherry harvest may begin next week. Most brought in the first alfalfa cutting.

**WASCO:** Hot weather prevailed through the latter half of week. Sweet cherries around The Dalles are beginning to show some color in the fruit. The rains ended last week while the cherries were still green, therefore, no rain cracking. The crop size is moderate; smaller than last year, but cherries should be of high quality if the rains hold off. There have been few wind storms this year so cherries are very clean with few marks. Some cherry growers in the Mill Creek area are reporting they have lower yield potentials due to spring frosts at, or before blossoming. Spraying continued all week for controlling the cherry fruit fly. Barley and wheat heading progressing rapidly from north to south. Alfalfa growers took advantage of the hot weather to start the first cutting of alfalfa hay. Cattle and sheep continued to do well on range and pastures, which are still showing some green from the earlier rains.

**WALLOWA:** No moisture received this week, which has allowed some farmers to complete their spring plantings. Range conditions, except for ponds, are good.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 29, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)**

Station	Air temperature <sup>1</sup>				Growing <sup>2</sup> Degree days		Last week precip. <sup>3</sup>			Season cum. Precipitation <sup>4</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	43	91	60	+7	74	+47	0.01	-0.62	1	56.55	-5.05	92	154
Bandon <sup>5</sup>	43	76	56	+4	46	+23	0.73	0.19	2	55.13	-1.02	98	143
Crescent City	44	73	57	+3	48	+17	-	-0.57	-	52.63	-9.72	84	116
Florence	36	91	58	+4	55	+24	1.06	0.29	2	59.89	-12.11	83	143
Tillamook	38	87	62	+9	81	+59	0.03	-0.90	1	65.48	-16.69	80	152
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>5</sup>	42	94	65	+9	107	+58	-	-0.49	-	28.55	-9.25	76	140
Corvallis	41	93	64	+8	98	+53	0.01	-0.41	1	19.56	-20.38	49	108
Detroit Lake <sup>5</sup>	37	96	62	+11	88	+64	-	-0.70	-	34.82	-28.47	55	93
Eugene	40	86	60	+3	75	+22	0.48	0.04	2	24.59	-21.86	53	125
Hillsboro	37	93	62	+6	88	+39	-	-0.35	-	24.74	-9.89	71	138
McMinnville	34	91	62	+5	86	+34	-	-0.38	-	22.48	-18.56	55	134
Portland	42	95	65	+7	109	+46	-	-0.42	-	25.19	-7.93	76	136
Salem	38	91	62	+6	87	+41	-	-0.42	-	24.16	-12.39	66	121
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	42	97	65	+4	104	+26	0.14	-0.07	1	27.98	-1.90	94	104
Medford	39	95	65	+5	104	+31	0.50	0.29	2	17.03	-0.49	97	87
Roseburg	42	95	64	+5	98	+37	1.28	1.00	2	27.56	-3.34	89	106
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	33	84	58	+5	62	+31	-	-0.28	-	10.19	-1.61	86	83
Echo <sup>5</sup>	36	95	65	+3	103	+22	0.01	-0.13	1	4.94	-2.93	63	96
Heppner	38	89	61	+4	80	+25	-	-0.28	-	9.43	-2.47	79	93
Hermiston	35	97	65	+4	106	+25	-	-0.14	-	5.60	-2.23	72	62
John Day	39	84	59	+3	61	+20	-	-0.35	-	10.38	-0.02	100	97
Madras <sup>5</sup>	34	87	59	+4	67	+22	-	-0.21	-	8.59	-0.04	100	95
Moro	35	91	60	+5	71	+30	-	-0.16	-	8.47	-1.27	87	92
Parkdale <sup>5</sup>	34	88	59	+2	65	+12	-	-0.20	-	19.39	-10.00	66	125
Pendleton	38	91	63	+3	89	+17	-	-0.21	-	7.73	-2.75	74	84
The Dalles	41	95	65	+9	109	+63	-	-0.21	-	8.53	-2.61	77	85
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>5</sup>	37	81	59	+9	67	+45	0.87	0.61	3	13.10	-1.17	92	78
Bend	31	86	56	+5	54	+30	0.52	0.31	1	11.77	2.01	121	71
Burns	33	81	56	+4	48	+22	0.17	-0.09	1	11.03	3.01	138	87
Christmas Valley <sup>5</sup>	26	83	53	-4	31	-10	1.23	0.99	2	9.58	-0.66	94	80
Klamath Falls	33	82	58	+4	62	+24	0.05	-0.16	1	11.06	-0.78	93	77
Klamath Falls <sup>5</sup>	35	82	59	+4	65	+27	0.02	-0.19	1	10.48	-1.36	89	106
Lakeview	37	81	57	+5	54	+24	0.05	-0.30	2	7.45	-6.00	55	57
Lorella <sup>5</sup>	32	85	57	+2	51	+13	0.08	-0.13	1	11.87	0.03	100	106
Redmond	28	88	57	+4	60	+30	0.27	0.06	1	9.30	2.50	137	76
Worden <sup>5</sup>	34	83	57	+2	50	+12	0.20	-0.01	2	10.49	-1.35	89	93
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	31	85	55	-1	41	+5	-	-0.34	-	8.81	0.97	112	80
Joseph	31	85	55	+6	48	+36	0.32	-0.17	1	15.54	-5.54	74	108
La Grande	32	84	58	+2	60	+14	-	-0.36	-	9.65	-4.68	67	81
Prairie City <sup>5</sup>	31	86	56	+7	46	+37	-	-0.35	-	11.53	-6.02	66	73
Union	32	88	57	+3	55	+21	0.02	-0.40	1	12.30	1.75	117	93
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	39	90	62	-2	88	+0	-	-0.21	-	6.57	-1.67	80	51
Rome	34	84	59	+0	62	+5	0.30	0.07	2	7.59	1.23	119	64

<sup>1</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>2</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>3</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. <sup>4</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. <sup>5</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).  
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.  
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